Secretary’s Report

We are all delighted with the honour recently bestowed upon Professor Sandra Edwards, who was recognised for all her hard work and dedication to the Pig Industry, with the Outstanding Contribution to Farming Award, at the 2017 Food and Farming Industry Awards. Sandra had been Professor of Agriculture at Newcastle for the last 20 years but officially retired at the end of 2017.

It is with regret that we also report the departures of Professor Carlo Leifert, Dr Liz Stockdale and Dr James Taylor from their positions in the School of Natural and Environmental Sciences. They are all leaving to take on new positions: Carlo at Southern Cross University in Australia, Liz at NIAB/TAG and James at Montpellier in France. We wish them all the best in their future careers.

In 2017 a total funding allocation of £275 was provided by UNAS to the PhD student Carl Samuel to attend and present ‘Using NGS to assess the impact of co-digestion on microbial community dynamics in Anaerobic Digestion’ at the 3rd International Conference on Biogas Microbiology (ICBM-3) at Wageningen in May 2017.

We have recently established a Working Group to look at the future role of UNAS in supporting its members. Currently we organise the Annual Reunion Dinner, publish the Journal and provide financial support in the form of Scholarships to current Postgraduate students to enable them to attend conferences, meetings etc. UNAS has also provided financial support to the School in terms of refreshments/hospitality at Agricultural shows, but we feel that we probably can, and should, be doing more to support our members.

Over the years UNAS has transitioned from being in a rather perilous state financially to now being in a relatively healthy financial position, largely due to the diligence and hard work of previous UNAS Secretaries and the current society Treasurer. This current healthy financial position therefore allows us to ask our members the following questions:

1) What can the Senior Agricultural Society do to support you?
2) What would you like to see from the Senior Society?
3) How can we strengthen the links between Junior and Senior societies?
4) How do you see the future role of UNAS within the changing face of Agriculture?
5) What would you specifically like to receive in return for your membership fee?

Please email any thoughts to paul.bilsborrow@ncl.ac.uk who will then co-ordinate through the Working Group.

To join the Society, please complete the UNAS membership form which can be found here. It can be returned, along with a completed standing order mandate, by email or post.

As always, please email any news or articles that you think may be of interest to your fellow readers to us at unas@newcastle.ac.uk.

Paul Bilsborrow

UNAS Hon. Secretary
Update from Professor Rob Edwards, Head of School, Natural and Environmental Sciences

Since last year’s update, we have moved on from our celebration of 125 years of past achievements in agriculture at Newcastle, and stepped decisively into a new era of development that reflects the many changes in the industry. Agriculture is a highly technical sector which needs people with up-to-date skills and an open, adaptable approach to new advances, if we are to develop the productive and profitable Food and Farming industry we need for the future. Our development of a new School of Natural and Environmental Sciences brings our well established agricultural expertise together with varied and wide-ranging skills in chemical, geo and life sciences, thus combining into an impressive resource able to tackle real world problems.

The value of this approach was highlighted to me earlier in the year when I took part in a UK-Canadian industry mission in agri-technology. My Canadian counterparts were complaining that they had difficulty recruiting people with the range of skills they needed because of single disciplinary training. They were particularly impressed by our move towards a much more transdisciplinary approach and saw immediately how our new school could help to facilitate this. Already we are seeing positive developments in teaching programmes that bring these different disciplines together.

I am also pleased to report that the new developments I mentioned last year at Cockle Park Farm are now all operational and attracting a great deal of interest nationally. These include:

- A new research laboratory
- The industrial scale glasshouse
- Seminar and meeting facilities
- A new research reception centre
- Work on livestock focused around the C-DIAL (Centre for Digital Technologies Applied to Livestock)

With these improved resources, we are having considerable success in gaining research council funding and, working closely with our industry partners, are well positioned to make applications to the new Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund in Transforming Food Production.

We have also been successful in a bid to the Elizabeth Creak Charitable Trust and this funding is supporting a new Chair in Translational Agri Tech to be appointed this year. This new post will build on other recent key appointments including our Duke of Northumberland Professor of Rural Economy Sally Shortall, who is based in the Centre for Rural Economy, and two new appointments in Crop Science: Professor Giles Budge and Professor Neil Boonham. We have also appointed a NU Farms Director, Mr James Standen.

We continue, of course, to support our alumni and to maintain our strong links with UNAS, not only via the annual dinner, but also by hosting other regular events. I recently met with a number of alumni for a very successful and enjoyable evening in London, and we plan other gatherings during the year. We are also delighted to see so many of our graduates at
county shows all over the country when we tour with our distinctive Newcastle University trailer, partly funded by UNAS. Do look out for it and drop in to talk to our team.

I am therefore, happy to report that, following a period of reorganisation, agriculture emerges stronger than ever and is still highly regarded within and beyond Newcastle as one of our university’s unique selling points.

Rob Edwards

*Head of School*

*Natural and Environmental Sciences*
Welcome New Staff

Neil Boonham Chair in Applied Crop Science

Neil Boonham is a new Chair in Applied Crop Science.

His main research interest is how to use rapid diagnostics to help combat crop diseases. Neil completed a PhD in Plant Virology at Birmingham University in 1995 before working on phytoplasma diseases of ground nuts in south-east Asia at Horticulture Research International at East Malling (now NIAB-EMR).

Neil then spent 20 years working at the Central Science Laboratory/Food and Environment Research Agency (now Fera Science Ltd.) delivering research supporting the UK Plant Health service (Defra) and other government agencies. The work focused on the use of post-genomic technologies for the detection and characterisation of emerging pests and pathogens, both in the UK and overseas. The fundamental work developing molecular diagnostic technologies now underpins much of the front line diagnostic work done by Defra as well as the UK Plant Health and Seeds Inspectors.

Neil’s current research at Newcastle University continues a similar theme but working on endemic rather than exotic pests. Focusing on the use of rapid and in-field diagnostics to rapidly identify traits in pathogens that enable us to make more informed decisions about control. The larger aim is along with colleagues in the University to develop a data-rich decision-making environment around farming, enabling farmers to access information from a range of different technologies to better inform on-farm decision making, improving production efficiency and lessening the environmental impact of farming.
UNAS Event Attendance 2018

Cereals
13th & 14th June

Great Yorkshire Show
10th – 12th July

UNAS at Events in 2017

The Newcastle University stand had a busy 2017 and was in attendance at Northumberland County Show, Cereals, The Great Yorkshire Show, the Royal Norfolk Show, Kelso Show and the Royal Highland Show.
Professor wins Outstanding Contribution to Farming award

Professor Sandra Edwards won the Outstanding Contribution to Farming award at the 2017 Food and Farming Industry Awards.

The prestigious ceremony was held at the House of Commons on the 1st of December 2017. It was hosted by renowned political broadcaster John Pienaar, the awards recognise excellence and innovation across the agricultural sector.

Sandra recently retired from the Chair of Agriculture at the School of Natural and Environmental Sciences. She received praise for finding the important balance between science and farming practicalities.

Farm Business publisher Simon Lewis said: “Congratulations to Sandra, who was a deserved winner on the night. These awards have highlighted the breadth and depth of talent, drive and ambition in the farming sector”.

Professor Sandra Edwards receives her award.
Junior Society Report 2017

Another great year for the Agric Society at Newcastle: Christmas and spring balls, bar crawls a-plenty including of course the annual trip to Durham, plus the usual boozy Monday nights round Haymarket, the Harper Adams trip, Summer BBQ and a ploughing match on home soil once again.

Ploughing match

Postponed a week due to the awful northern weather. This unfortunately meant Harper and Reading could no longer come in numbers, nevertheless the Newcastle Agrics carried on through the mud and rain and accompanied by the customary bottle of port and some dubious fancy dress settled in to enjoy the day. The ploughs fought against the rain but stopped early, even a 315-horsepower new Holland struggled with the wet! By that time the interest of the supporters had faded as the resident Flares DJ had taken over the marquee. Shortly after there wasn’t a clean body in sight, the mud wrestling had started and one poor bloke had ripped his trousers, meaning he was left to walk around in his birthday suit from the waist down for the remainder of the day. How unfortunate.

4 o’clock came too soon and it was time to board the bus back to Newcastle, a quick turnaround followed and we powered through for an enjoyable night out in the toon.

Rugby

The rugby is going as strong as ever, managing to field both a first and second team in the University Inter Mural league, numerous away trips and the Edinburgh Agrics game in Newcastle which we won this year.

No silverware last season as we narrowly lost out to our nemesis of the last few years the Cheeky Ladies in the league and a strong Armstrong team in the cup. Nonetheless an enjoyable season was had by all with one highlight probably being a second trip down to Malton in North Yorkshire for a fundraising game for the Rob Stephenson Trust.
The Morpeth Farmers game was as hard fought as ever, it was refreshing to see that the locals had not got any smaller in our year apart. Cheered on by our mass of supporters the agrics stuck at it and ground out a close fought win. The hospitality in the club house was as fantastic as ever and it was with regret that we boarded the bus home afterwards.

This season things look promising on the pitch with a good set of freshers. We have enjoyed trips to Alnwick, the brilliant Morpeth and Harper Adams University for the block fixture.

Harper Block Fixture

The annual block fixture commenced after a year’s sabbatical. This year a bus load of Newcastle Agrics awoke early and trudged down to the Hancock Museum layby in the early hours to begin proceedings. Looking at the state of a few of them it was a wonder they made it at all. Netball, Hockey and Rugby were the sports played. The netball team went down fighting as did the mixed hockey team. Though only when Harper decided to take all their girls off at half time.... how sporting. A large crowd gathered to watch the rugby and against their first team the agrics rose to the challenge, narrowly missing out on a late comeback with a couple of missed conversions. After a victorious boat race we headed back to our host houses in Newport before meeting up again in the Harper Adams students union for the night out. A live German oompah band meant a night out we certainly wouldn’t forget in a hurry.

A great night but with only one nightclub and Newport being a quiet town we all left reassured that we had made the correct decision with our own university selection.

James Nettleton Junior Society Chairman 2017-2018 and James Carr Junior Society Chairman 2016-2017
UNAS Funded Postgraduate Abstract

Using Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) to assess the impact of co-digestion on microbial community dynamics in Anaerobic Digestion

Samuel, C.W.C.1*, Dolfing, J.2, Wade, M.2, Bilsborrow, P.1

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Anaerobic digestion (AD) process efficiency improvements are limited by the inherent complexity of the microbial community (MC) dynamics. Recent advances in high throughput 16S rRNA sequencing have facilitated research into MC diversity and population shifts during the AD process. This research aims to further enhance the existing body of work by investigating correlations between physico-chemical AD process parameters and the abundance and diversity of the MC in laboratory scale digesters fed with cattle slurry (CS) and mixtures of CS and grass silage (GS).

The biochemical methane potential (BMP) of 4 feed mixtures (FM) having a CS:GS (Cattle slurry: grass silage) ratio of (100:0, 80:20, 60:40 GS) was determined by batch and CSTR experiments. Physico-chemical parameters monitored for the CS and 60:40 mixture included biogas production, methane %, Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN), Total Ammonia Nitrogen (TAN), Total Solids (TS), Volatiles Solids (VS) and Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD). Laboratory scale continuously stirred tank reactors (CSTR) were operated under mesophilic conditions for 3 x HRT i.e. 75 days with organic loading rates (OLR) of 2g VS per day and 4g VS per day. Samples taken from batch and CSTR reactors (OLR=2g VS/d) processing the CS and 60:40 mix were analysed by Illumina 16S rRNA sequencing. Inferred sequence variants were identified using the DADA2 bioinformatics pipeline along with the Sylva_123 database.

Specific methane production (SMP) for the CS, 80:20,60:40 and GS treatments were 266, 331, 368 and 435 L_NH_4 per kg VS /d respectively for the batch test. The SMP for CS was 30% less than that of the 60:40 blend (p < 0.001). This trend in SMP was repeated in the CSTR experiments at both OLR levels. High throughput 16S rRNA sequencing of samples indicate that Firmicutes, Bacteriodetes and Proteobacteria were among the top 10 dominant bacteria phyla while Euryarchaeota the dominant archaea phyla.
University of Newcastle Agricultural Society (UNAS)
Annual General Meeting: Saturday 11th November 2017
The Assembly Rooms (Regency Suite) at 18.30

Minutes

Present: Simon Smith (Treasurer), Paul Bilsborrow (Secretary), James Steele, Harry Huddart and Paul Spensley.

In attendance: Rob Edwards (Head of School), Kate McGill (School Manager), Teresa Jordon (Outstations Coordinator), Tom Bramald (Faculty Marketing Manager) and Karen Stubbs (Administrative Support).

Apologies: Jack Smith (Chairman), Steve Wilcockson, David Lawrie, James Stark (Vice-Chairman), Jonathan Goodfellow (Editor) and Teri Wishart (Director of Advancement (previously known as DARO or the Alumni Office)).

1. Apologies and Welcome
1.1 Simon Smith and Paul Bilsborrow jointly chaired the meeting in the absence of Jack Smith. The Chair(s) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last AGM held on Saturday 7th November 2016
2.1 With the exception of the following two corrections, the minutes of the last meeting were accepted and approved as a true and accurate record.

Correction at point 3.1
Regarding the ‘Peer to Peer’ loans proposal, P Bilsborrow discussed this further with J Franks. J Franks no longer wants to pursue this as he only wanted to focus on UK Agriculture students whereas UNAS is wider reaching meaning that it would be difficult to incorporate his concept. Action closed.

Amended to read:
Regarding the ‘Peer to Peer’ loans proposal, P Bilsborrow discussed further with J Franks. UNAS agreed that they no longer want to pursue this as the proposal only focuses on UK Agriculture students whereas UNAS is wider reaching meaning that it would be difficult to incorporate this concept.

Correction at point 4.1
The document outlines an issue highlighted by the University, that the ‘University of Newcastle Agricultural Society’ name has ‘Newcastle University’ in the title even though UNAS is a standalone entity. The University have therefore requested that the society change its name (the acronym UNAS would be permitted). The committee agree to change the name of the society to ‘UNAS’.
Amended to read:
The document outlines an issue highlighted by the University, that the ‘University of Newcastle Agricultural Society’ name on the UNAS bank account has ‘Newcastle University’ in the title even though UNAS is a standalone entity. The University have therefore requested that the society change its name on the bank account (the acronym UNAS would be permitted). The committee agree to change the name of the society on the bank account to ‘UNAS’. The name of the Society will remain ‘University of Newcastle Agricultural Society’ (UNAS).

Noted that: The document referred to in the paragraph was not included in the Journal, thus some context of the discussion was lost.

3. Outstanding Actions and Matters arising from the last meeting
3.1 Noted that: The outstanding actions have been completed throughout the year, with the exception of the following:

A full check of the societies’ membership needs to be undertaken by cross-referencing the bank account with the database held by the Alumni Office as some of the standing orders are very old. There is little reference on the standing orders which makes them hard to identify.

Action: S Smith and K Stubbs will action.

4. Items for discussion
4.1 Update on the new School (Prof Rob Edwards, Head of School, Natural & Environmental Sciences, Newcastle University). Noted that:

- Rumours of the demise of Agriculture are much exaggerated. The Head of School confirms that the Agricultural degrees, research and commitment to the Farms remains unchanged and the word ‘Agriculture’ remains in the Faculty title (Faculty of Science, Agriculture & Engineering).
- B.Sc. Agriculture Admissions are slightly down but ABM are up (the ABM degree in effect has split into 2 components: one focusing on the supply chain and the other on the farm gate aspects of ABM).
- The School has recently invested £2million in two new Agri-tech Centres, the AD at Cockle Park has received further investment with the purchase of a CHP unit, and a new Farms Director post, together with two new Professors in Crop Science, has recently been appointed.
- The Head of School is 100% committed to Agriculture and very much at the fore of Agricultural interests.

The UNAS Committee thank the Head of School for the clarification and reassurance and agree that many of the members are probably not aware of the reorganisation.

4.2 London Alumni Event – Wednesday 7th March 2018 hosted by Professor Chris Day, Vice Chancellor of Newcastle University (Prof Rob Edwards). Noted that:

- The Vice-Chancellor intends to host an Agriculture alumni event in London in March. The format and main aims of the event are still to be confirmed, however ideas include a topical debate (e.g. supply chain opportunities in Brexit, adding value to
British produce), open discussion forum, business networking reception then an evening event/dinner.

- Committee suggest asking Agric alumni what format they would like and what they would like to contribute to the event/discussion.

4.3 Nuffield Farming Scholarship Trust/ co-sponsor Northern Farmer Awards; (Prof Rob Edwards). The committee discussed ideas to engage members/recent graduates and raising the profile of UNAS. Noted that:

- Potential to tag on training/technology/CPD (Continuing Professional Development) events on to alumni workshops. Committee agree that this should be encouraged and events should be made proactive and engaging, and not just social.
- Could our current alumni assist with student placements for current students? Noted that more positive responses are received from targeted requests asking for “we need x placements in x area” or, “we need help with this…” instead of a general request.
- Committee discuss the Nuffield Farming Scholarship Trust. Unfortunately the committee do not have sufficient income to significantly contribute to this annually, it is too expensive to sustain (the ‘core’ scholarship amounts to a bursary of £12,000, with the Global Focus Programme being a further £12,000 sponsorship). UNAS would consider donating a nominal contribution.
- Noted that there are a lot of graduates who have done this scholarship, and so perhaps this is an area where feedback could be drawn from.
- Committee discuss co-sponsoring a Northern Farmer Award - a named award such as “Innovation in the north of England”. Agree that this would put NU and the Society back on the industry-facing map (the price is £3k per category sponsorship for a six months pre roll and post event publicity campaign). UNAS would consider making a contribution. Faculty level funding could also be a possibility. Someone from UNAS would present the award. Committee agree to discuss this further.

**Action: Meeting to be arranged between T Bramald, R Edwards and S Smith/ P Bilsborrow for further discussion.**

5. Chairman’s report (Jack Smith)
5.1 No report received.

6. Secretary’s report (Paul Bilsborrow)
6.1 Of the agreed £1500 per year available for PG students to attend conferences/events etc., there was only one application this year, for a PhD conference for £275. UNAS secretary will send an email out to relevant research groups in the new school (Crop Science, Animal Science) advertising the fund that is available.

6.2 There were no UNAS seminars this year. The 2nd year students are keen to run a series this Spring TBC. Committee agree that there are many people willing to come and give talks and guest lectures and UNAS are still happy to contribute to costs of more sponsored talks/seminars/lectures. Committee discuss how to increase attendance at the events. Ideas include the Junior Society Chairman encouraging the juniors to attend before going out on a social; timetabling them in as 10 or 20 credit modules where they could write a reflective
piece on the guest speakers; having a social event afterwards or offering networking/refreshments before or after.

7. Treasurer’s report (Simon Smith) Annual Accounts document received (hard copy only)

7.1 Annual Dinner
This is the 68th Annual UNAS dinner. Numbers are down on last year’s from 170 to 117. This includes 3 tables (30 tickets) for the Junior Agrics. A small profit was made on the dinner last year due to lower numbers and higher ticket prices. Most of the tickets this year were purchased in advance via the new online booking system, although a few were still received via bank transfer as well as some cheques and cash still received.

7.2 Membership
Noted that:
- Subscriptions remain constant but still reducing. The society has received 7 new membership applications this year. As is said every year, there is a need to focus on membership, incentives and student conversion as still not attracting as much new membership as would like to.
- Committee agrees to extend the incentive for every member that joins the Senior Society from now until 31st December 2018, UNAS will donate £15 to the Rob Stephenson Trust.
- Committee agrees that the ideas discussed last year on how to recruit recent graduates have been successful and so P Bilsborrow will continue to carry them out.
  - To produce a form for the leavers reminding them that they will be losing their University email account soon and so to provide their personal email addresses at that point. The Chairman of the Junior Society will be tasked with this when they pass over;
  - That the Junior Society organise an annual debating event (UNAS will provide catering);
  - That the Chairman and/or Secretary of the current Junior Agric Society would be formally invited as official guests of UNAS each year to the AGM and dinner to encourage awareness in the younger ranks.
- Committee also agree to do the following:
  - Send a target email to the most recent graduates to invite them to the dinner and to sign up for membership;
  - Continue to advertise the Senior Society wherever there is an opportunity.

Noted other suggestions received:
- Junior Society to advertise Senior society events and dinner on social media;
- Free tickets to the dinner for last years’ graduates (if they become a member) although not sure how this could be monitored;
- UNAS to host an event with a speaker to meet students and explain the value of being a member of the Senior society;
- Better management and use of the Agric LinkedIn professional network however not sure who currently manages this;
- Focus on apprenticeships and placements. T Bramald offered to broker/advise on a model for B2B events.
Agreed that there is a disconnect between the relationship of the Junior and the Senior Societies as it is a student/academic relationship rather than a professional/peer/mentoring relationship.

7.3 Investments
Noted that the committee wish to continue investing and donating to the University and Agricultural students.

8. Journal Editor’s report (Jonathan Goodfellow)
8.1 No report received.

8.2 The 2016 Journal (Volume 38) went out in October 2017. The 2017 Journal (Volume 39) will be sent out in Spring 2018.

9. Agricultural Events update and profile raising (Tom Bramald)
9.1 The 2017 events went very well as always with the drinks reception remaining popular. Committee agree this should continue and suggest making a permanent sign to display at each event regarding the Reception for UNAS members.

9.2 Tom Bramald explains the new NU model that is in place following the faculty reorganisation. Essentially the marketing and promotion activity has changed to a category management model, instead of one person doing everything for one discipline, the tasks have been split between the team e.g. one person specialising in web management, one in social media development, a student team, a corporate marketing team etc. This means the Agriculture events are now managed under Corporate Marketing at Faculty level and not within the School.

9.3 Tom confirms that the new team are mindful and respectful of the value and legacy of UNAS and attendance at the agricultural shows and confirms that NU will be attending some of the same events in 2018.

9.4 There is a new working group across Newcastle University Agriculture which is looking at what we want to achieve at the events. There is an interest in looking at some new events. Northern Ireland has been suggested as somewhere we could look to and in late 2017 we will try British Potato for the first time. Tom asks the committee to consider what can we enable and/or get out of the events? What can we do to reinvigorate the alumni receptions?

10. Election of Officers: motion to continue:
- Chairman - Jack Smith (into his second year)
- Vice Chairman - Jamie Stark (into his second year)
- Secretary - Paul Bilsborrow
- Treasurer - Simon Smith
- Journal Editor - Jonathan Goodfellow

10.1 Motion passed for all elected officers listed above to continue.
11. Any Other Business
11.1 Declining attendance at the annual reunion dinner.
Committee discuss concerns that the older senior members have been lost from the reunion dinner. Individuals used to attend, but now it is mainly groups. How do we get the senior members back and make the dinner like it used to be? Should there be separate events? Graduates from the 1960s have started having their own event. Could we add intellectual and commercial interaction/ value as well as a social element? Agreed that:
    o Next year’s event (2018) will not have a disco and trips to the farms in the afternoon will be offered. The younger ones (more recently graduated) will most likely prefer to go to the annual old boys v current agrics rugby match as they will still remember the farms! A sign-up form can be generated and circulated for numbers for coaches and catering etc.
    o 2019 will be the 70th UNAS Dinner and this can be marketed as a big celebration, perhaps with a lunch event, networking or other interactive activity and then on to the dinner.
    o The London alumni event, discussed at 4.2 above can be used to publicise the above plans to encourage senior members to attend in November.
    o The UNAS Committee will tentatively plan to have a committee meeting during the year, as having only the AGM means that decisions and conversations take a year to pass.
    o Target emails will be sent via the Advancement Office to relevant cohorts to spur on reunions e.g. from 1978, 1988, 1998, 2008 for reunions.
    o Putting bottles of wine on the commemorative tables is a nice touch.

12. Closing remarks and thanks
12.1 Chair thanks everyone for attending.

Date of next meeting(s):
    • Committee meeting in the Spring, TBC.
    • The next AGM will be on Saturday 10th November 2018 at the Assembly Rooms.
Society Overview

Annual Journal
We would like to remind you that the journal will only be distributed electronically from now on, so please ensure we have your most recent email address. UNAS members with news or articles for inclusion in the Journal can contact Jonathan Goodfellow, the UNAS Journal Editor, at unas@ncl.ac.uk.

69th Annual Reunion Dinner
We are pleased to confirm that this year’s annual reunion dinner will be at the Assembly Rooms on Saturday 10th November 2018. More information and booking details will be emailed nearer the time.

Membership
Please can we request that all members check their membership status if you have not done so recently. The current membership fee is £15.00 per annum payable by standing order. Membership forms and other information can be found on the UNAS website.

Please encourage your friends to join!

Contact details
It is important that we have your up-to-date information. You will only receive UNAS contact via email now, often via the Alumni Office database contact system. It is important that we have your up-to-date email address to make sure you don’t miss out on anything. Please complete the update your contact details form. The Newcastle University Data Protection Statement is also available via this link.

PASS IT ON – if there is anyone you know who would like to receive information from UNAS, or who used to receive it but no longer does, please urge them to complete the update your contact details form.

Social media
You can contact us via the following social media channels:
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/nufarmsncl/
Twitter: https://twitter.com/SciencesNCL
Please join our Agric Alumni LinkedIn group too.

Branded merchandise
Classic UNAS ties are still available. In polyester, these have a dark-green background with purple/white/gold diagonal stripes. Cost including post and packing is £7.50 per tie.

A range of polo and rugby shirts, v-neck pullovers and other leisurewear is available embroidered with the ‘Agrics’ logo. If you would like further information about any of our branded merchandise or would like to place an order, please contact us.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time with news, to update your details, or with any feedback or suggestions on unas@ncl.ac.uk.